



Attorney Docket No.: 101896-175

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: Missoum Moumene et al.

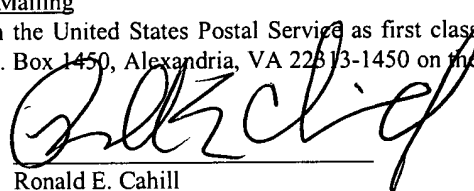
Application No.: 10/606,200

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: June 25, 2003

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: Locking Cap Assembly For Spinal Fixation  
Instrumentation

<u>Certificate of First Class Mailing</u>	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date set forth below.	
<u>8/11/03</u>	By: 
Date of Signature and of Mail Deposit	Ronald E. Cahill Reg. No. 38,403 Attorney for Applicants

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Dear Sirs:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

Those patent(s) or publication(s) which are marked with an asterisk (\*) in the attached form PTO/SB/08 are not supplied because they were previously cited by Examiner or submitted to the Office in prior application 09/667,937, filed September 22, 2000 relied upon in this application for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120.

While the information and references disclosed in this Information Disclosure Statement may be "material" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent,

publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

Dated:

8/11/03

Respectfully submitted,

By



Ronald E. Cahill

Registration No.: 38,403

NUTTER, MCCLENNEN &amp; FISH, LLP

World Trade Center West

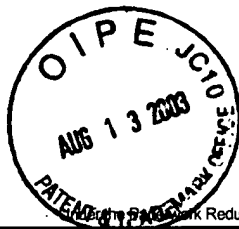
155 Seaport Boulevard

Boston, Massachusetts 02210-2604

Telephone (617) 439-2782

Facsimile (617) 310-9782

Attorney for Applicants



Substitute for form 1449/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE          STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				Application Number	
				Filing Date	
				First Named Inventor	
				Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	101896-175

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
*	AA	5,257,993	11/93	Asher et al.	
*	AB	5,261,912	11/93	Frigg	
*	AC	5,306,275	4/94	Bryan	
*	AD	5,443,467	8/95	Biedermann et al.	
*	AE	5,498,264	3/96	Schlapfer et al.	
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*	AY	6,302,888 B1	10/01	Mellinger	
*	AZ	4,950,269	8/90	Gaines	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
*	BA	DE 94 03 231	4/94			
*	BB	WO 00/19923	4/00			
*	BC	JP 2001-276086	10/01	Abe Eiji et al.	Translation	X
Examiner Signature				Date Considered		

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the application number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.